

REMARKS

With this Response, no claims are amended, added, or canceled. Therefore, claims 26-43 are pending.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 26-33 and 35-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,118,763 issued to Trumbull (*Trumbull*). Applicants respectfully submit that this reference fails to anticipate the claimed invention for at least the following reasons.

Claim 26 recites the following:

an RJ-11 port to receive an RJ-11 connector from end user equipment or a telephone network;

a detection circuit to **automatically detect** whether the RJ-11 port receives an RJ-11 connector from end user equipment or from a telephone network; and

a control circuit to **automatically configure** the RJ-11 port to interface to the end user equipment or the telephone network, **based on the detection** of the detection circuit.

Claim 35 is an independent method claim directed to detecting whether an RJ-11 port engages with a connector from end user equipment or a telephone network and automatically configuring the port based on the determination.

Trumbull discusses a network interface card with two telephone ports, "which are independently hardware configurable," with the configuration being "selected by controlling a telephone line interface circuit 280." Col. 13, line 66 to col. 14, line 7. *Trumbull* fails to disclose or suggest **automatically detecting** whether a port receives a connector from end user equipment or from a telephone network. Even assuming that *Trumbull* may be interpreted as disclosing detecting the connection on the port, *Trumbull* fails to disclose or suggest **automatically configuring the port, based on the detection**, as claimed. In apparent contrast, the reference makes clear that the port is configured "**by controlling a telephone line interface**

circuit." The fact that the circuit must be **controlled** to configure the port indicates that the configuring of *Trumbull*'s ports is **not** automatic, based on the detection of what is connected to the port, as recited in the claims, but rather based on some process of controlling and manually configuring the line. Therefore, the cited reference fails to disclose at least one element of the claimed invention, and so fails to anticipate the invention as claimed.

Claims 27-33 depend from claim 26, and claims 36-42 depend from claim 35. Because dependent claims necessarily include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not anticipated by the reference for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 34 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Trumbull* and U.S. Patent No. 6,272,209 issued to Bridger et al. (*Bridger*). These claims depend from independent claims 26 and 35, respectively. *Trumbull* is shown above to fail to disclose at least one element of the independent claims, and *Bridger* was shown in Applicants' previous Response of May 25, 2004 to suffer similar deficiencies in failing to disclose or suggest at least the same claim element mentioned above with respect to *Trumbull*. Thus, whether alone or in combination, the references fail to disclose or suggest at least one element of the independent claims. Because dependent claim necessarily include the limitations of the independent claims from which they depend, Applicants respectfully submit that the references fail to render obvious the invention as recited in these claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections have been overcome herein, placing all pending claims in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is

respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the above-referenced application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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